

# County of Rock Land Conservation Department

## Overview of Erosion Control Permit Application Procedures for Landowners and Contractors

Please note, this summary is not intended to be a complete list of program requirements. Please review the ordinance and speak to staff if you are conducting a project which may require a permit.

# Why is Erosion and Sediment Control Important?

- Protect water bodies and adjacent properties from harmful sediment and pollutants
- Protect drainage facilities from clogging and flooding
- Protect safety of driving public by keeping soil material off of public roadways
- Plans and permits required by County Ordinance since 2004
  - [Chapter 27: Erosion Control Ordinance](#)

# Where Do County Requirements Apply?

- Unincorporated areas of Rock County
  - One local exception: Beloit Township
    - Contact the Town of Beloit for local requirements
- Within Cities and Villages when on lands annexed since 2004 and the local municipality does not have an ordinance with the same (or greater) performance standards as the County Ordinance

# What size project requires a permit?

- Disturbing\* greater than 4,000 sq ft
- Disturbing greater than 1,000 sq ft or placing greater than 40 cubic yards within the Shoreland Zoning District
- Disturbing greater than 1,000 sq ft on slopes greater than 12 percent
- Disturbing greater than 100 lineal feet of an area of concentrated flow (e.g. road ditches, swales)
- Installing 300 ft or more of underground utilities
- Other projects depending location and scope of work

\*Disturbance is considered grading, excavation, filling or any other means of removing protective vegetative cover

# Are there permit exemptions?

## Yes...

- Erosion control at new home construction sites is regulated as part of the UDC-Building Permit
  - Additional site work or landscaping not associated with the building process may require Rock County Permit
- Agricultural activities involved directly with planting, growing and harvesting crops and pasturing or yarding of livestock are exempt
  - Construction of facilities associated with these ag activities are not exempt (e.g. machine sheds, free stall barns or offices)
- Other exemptions may apply (see ordinance)
  - Please confirm exemptions with LCD before proceeding with your project

# What is the permit process?

- Applications are available from the LCD website or office
- Erosion and sediment control plan may be developed by the applicant (i.e. contractor) or other hired professional, but landowner is ultimately responsible for proper implementation
- Permit must be obtained prior to starting any land disturbing activity
  - Typically a one to two week review process
- Application fees are based on size of project

# What is required in the plan?

- A site sketch with notable landscape features such as steep slopes, drainage ways or water bodies and location of erosion control measures
- A timeframe/schedule for the project, including installation of temporary erosion control measures and permanent seeding
- Contact information for responsible party

# What are the ongoing responsibilities during the project?

- Implement approved plan
  - Any modifications to size of project or choice of sediment control devices must approved by LCD
- Inspect and maintain erosion control measures weekly and after 0.5” or more rain event
- Minimize the amount of time that ground is left without vegetation or other permanent cover
- Site will be inspected periodically by LCD staff
- Permit will be expired when all areas are stabilized
  - Permit is valid for one year maximum

# Other information

- Rock County Erosion Control Ordinance may be viewed here...
  - [www.co.rock.wi.us/index.php/land-conservation-ordinances](http://www.co.rock.wi.us/index.php/land-conservation-ordinances)
- Application forms and other materials may be found here...
  - [www.co.rock.wi.us/index.php/erosion-control-and-storm-water-management/erosion-control-documents](http://www.co.rock.wi.us/index.php/erosion-control-and-storm-water-management/erosion-control-documents)
- Contact Andrew Baker at [baker@co.rock.wi.us](mailto:baker@co.rock.wi.us) or 608-289-0877 with any questions or if you would like an application sent to you